

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-2 (cancelled).

3 (currently amended). ~~The computing device of claim 1~~ A computing device adapted to communicate via a network infrastructure, comprising:

a long-term storage device;

a user interface adapted to interact with the computing device and for launching a rendering application; and

a management module, separate from said rendering application and interfaceable to any of a plurality of rendering applications that include said rendering application, that receives a communication from the rendering application to access first information stored on the long-term storage device,

wherein the first information is stored in an encrypted format and wherein the management module returns first data which enables the use of said first information by said rendering application, wherein said first data includes said first information in an unencrypted format.

4 (cancelled).

5 (currently amended). ~~The computing device of claim 4~~ A computing device adapted to communicate via a network infrastructure, comprising:

a long-term storage device;

a user interface adapted to interact with the computing device and for launching a rendering application; and

a management module, separate from said rendering application and interfaceable to any of a plurality of rendering applications that include said rendering application, that receives a communication from the rendering application to access first information stored on the long-term storage device,

wherein the first information is stored in an encrypted format and wherein the management module returns first data which enables the use of said first information by said rendering

application, wherein second information pertaining a user or a transaction is returned by the management module to the rendering application for usage on the computing device, and wherein said second information is selected from the group consisting of: a name, a credit card number, and a receipt number.

6 (cancelled).

7 (currently amended). ~~The computing device of claim 1~~ A computing device adapted to communicate via a network infrastructure, comprising:

a long-term storage device;

a user interface adapted to interact with the computing device and for launching a rendering application; and

a management module, separate from said rendering application and interfaceable to any of a plurality of rendering applications that include said rendering application, that receives a communication from the rendering application to access first information stored on the long-term storage device,

wherein the first information is stored in an encrypted format and wherein the management module returns first data which enables the use of said first information by said rendering application, and wherein said management module is interfaceable with a secure repository receivable via said network infrastructure, wherein said secure repository applies a key to second data.

8 (previously presented). The computing device of claim 7, wherein said second data comprises a key which decrypts said first information.

9-13 (cancelled).

14 (currently amended). ~~The computer readable medium of claim 13~~ A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions to perform acts comprising:

authenticating software; and

providing at least one cryptographic service for said software;

wherein said computer-executable instructions to perform said at least one cryptographic service are separate from said software and invocable by a call from said software, wherein said at least one cryptographic service comprises unsealing sealed data, wherein said sealed data comprises information associated with the user to whom content is licensed, and wherein said information is selected from the group consisting of: a name, a credit card number, and a receipt number.

15 (currently amended). ~~The computer-readable medium of claim 9~~ A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions to perform acts comprising:

authenticating software; and

providing at least one cryptographic service for said software;

wherein said computer-executable instructions to perform said at least one cryptographic service are separate from said software and invocable by a call from said software, wherein said act of providing at least one cryptographic service comprises issuing a call to a secure repository, wherein said secure repository decrypts at least some data.

16-26 (cancelled).

27 (currently amended). ~~The method of claim 16~~ A method of supporting a content distribution system, said method comprising the acts of:

providing, to a first entity, an interface for requesting at least one service, said interface being usable by first software;

providing, to a second entity, a set of computer-executable instructions that provide one or more services;

wherein said computer-executable instructions are invocable by way of said interface, and wherein said one or more services include enabling the use of information stored in an encrypted format,

wherein said set of computer-executable instructions includes instructions to:

issue a call to a secure repository if said information has associated therewith a first level of protection; and

enable the use of said information without using said secure repository if said

information has associated therewith a second level of protection different from said first level of protection.

28 (cancelled).

29 (currently amended). ~~The method of claim 28~~ A method of using first information stored in an encrypted format, said method comprising the acts of:

issuing a first request to provide first data which enables the use of said first information; and

if said first information is sealed with second information pertaining to an authorized user of said first information, issuing a second request to provide second data which includes said second information, wherein said second information is selected from the group consisting of: a name, a credit card number, and a receipt number.

30 (currently amended). ~~The method of claim 28~~ A method of using first information stored in an encrypted format, said method comprising the acts of:

issuing a first request to provide first data which enables the use of said first information; and

if said first information is sealed with second information pertaining to an authorized user of said first information, issuing a second request to provide second data which includes said second information, wherein said first data comprises said first information in an unencrypted format.

31-33 (cancelled).